

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

ROBERT LEE-OTIS NORTHROP,

Petitioner,

Case Number: 06-CV-13081

v.

HON. PAUL D. BORMAN

HUGH WOLFENBARGER,

Respondent.

/

**ORDER DENYING WITHOUT PREJUDICE PETITIONER'S  
MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

Petitioner Robert Lee-Otis Northrop, a state inmate currently incarcerated at the Macomb Correctional Facility in New Haven, Michigan, has filed a *pro se* petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Now before the Court is Petitioner's Motion for Appointment of Counsel.

There exists no constitutional right to the appointment of counsel in civil cases, and the court has broad discretion in determining whether counsel should be appointed. Childs v. Pellegrin, 822 F.2d 1382, 1384 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1987) ("[A]ppointment of counsel in a civil case is . . . a matter within the discretion of the court. It is a privilege and not a right.") (internal quotation omitted). A habeas petitioner may obtain representation at any stage of the case "[w]henever the United States magistrate or the court determines that the interests of justice so require." 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B). In the instant case, the Court determines after careful consideration that the interests of justice do not require appointment of counsel at this time.

Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that Petitioner's Motion for Appointment of Counsel is

**DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.** The Court will reconsider Petitioner's motion if it determines at a later date that appointment of counsel is necessary.

s/Paul D. Borman

PAUL D. BORMAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated: August 1, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Copies of this Order were served on the attorneys of record by electronic means or U.S. Mail on August 1, 2006.

s/Denise Goodine

Case Manager